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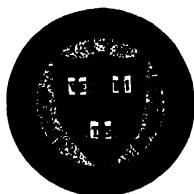
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THE
FLORAL MAGAZINE:

COMPRISING

Figures and Descriptions

OF

POPULAR GARDEN FLOWERS.

BY THE

REV. H. HONYWOOD DOMBRAIN, A.B.

THE DRAWINGS BY WORTHINGTON G. SMITH, F.L.S.

VOL. X.



LONDON:

L. REEVE & CO., 5, HENRIETTA STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

1871.

LONDON:
SAVILL, EDWARDS AND CO., PRINTERS, CHANDOS STREET,
COVENT GARDEN.

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LILIUM AURATUM—BEAUTY AND PICTUM.

It is now eight years since the horticultural world was surprised and delighted by the first sight of the magnificent *Lilium Auratum*, then for the first time exhibited. In the description given of it, it was described as one flowered, but in Mr. Fortune's notes, published in the "Floral Magazine," it was stated to produce four or five flowers on the one stem. Since then it has been introduced by tens of thousands, and we have seen plants exhibited with 190 blooms on them, some single stems producing thirty or forty flowers; very great variety of colouring has also been manifested, of which, even at the early period alluded to, we had already indications, the plants from which the figures were taken for the "Botanical" and "Floral Magazine," being of different shades of colour.

Amongst the most frequent exhibitors of this beautiful lily has been Mr. Bull, of Chelsea, and amongst his plants have been some varieties of very great beauty of marking; two of these form the subjects of our plate. *Beauty* (fig. 1) is a distinct variety, with a rich golden yellow band in the centre of each petal, the whole of the flower being thickly dotted over with rich claret-coloured spots. *Pictum* (fig. 2) is a still more distinct variety, having a golden yellow bar bordered with crimson, and very thickly covered with rich crimson spots. Mr. Bull has also exhibited one pure white, and in fact the varieties seem endless.

L. Auratum requires, we believe, to be repotted after the stems have become yellow; it should then be placed in a cool pit or orchard-house, and watered but sparingly until the growth commences.



PLATE 515.

BICOLOR PELARGONIUM—REINE VICTORIA.

The improvement in this class of pelargoniums still continues, and to no one are we so much indebted for the improvement as to Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing, of Stanstead Park, Forest Hill, and Edinburgh. They have been eminently successful in obtaining varieties suitable both for culture in pots and for the flower garden, as may be seen from the varieties which we have already figured, while *Reine Victoria* is undoubtedly an improvement upon those previously exhibited.

Reine Victoria has very large leaves, beautifully shaped, of a brilliant yellow, with a bronze edge of deep golden yellow, good habit and perfect shape; the foliage is very thick, and withstands the heat of the sun so well, that it will be unequalled for bedding. It gained the first prize at the Crystal Palace in June, as the best golden-bronze yet in cultivation; and it is unquestionably the first exhibition variety known. Besides this variety, the following will be distributed at the same time. *Benek Douglas*, very dark bronzy zone; leaves large, bold, and finely-shaped; narrow green margin. *Earl Rosslyn*; leaves bright yellow; most brilliant chestnut zone; broad golden edge; habit bushy; a fine bedder. *Red Rover*; leaves of a pale yellow, with broad dark chestnut zone, edged with golden-yellow.

We have nothing new to add as to the cultivation of this beautiful tribe, but we believe it is more than ever likely to gain favour for bedding purposes, supplanting in this respect even the more delicately-coloured tricolors, than which nothing can be more beautiful for pot culture.



PLATE 516.

CATTLEYA WARNERI.

This very beautiful orchid, named after one of our most zealous amateur cultivators of the tribe, belongs to the Labiata section of the family, and those who have attended our Metropolitan Exhibitions, in June and July, have not failed to notice the fine plants of this section that are exhibited; few of them can vie with that of which we now publish a figure.

The cultivation of this plant is by no means difficult, it succeeds either in a pot or on a block of wood suspended from the roof of the house, and like the rest of its congeners delights in moderate heat and moisture during its period of growth. After it has done flowering it requires rest; not absolute dryness, but withholding water from the roots. When cultivated in pots, they should be thoroughly drained, nothing contributing more to ill-health in these plants than stagnation at the roots; and the pot should be filled up nearly to the rim with broken potsherds and then sphagnum, and then good peat and broken pots intermixed; in such a soil, and in a warm house, it will thrive well.

The plant is not one of the large-growing orchids, it seldom attains more than sixteen inches in length. The flowers, as will be seen on reference to the drawing, are six inches across, sometimes five being borne on the same sheath. The sepals and petals are of a lovely rose colour, the lip large, of a rich crimson and fringed, but as in the case of many orchids the native specimens vary considerably in colour.

We are indebted to Mr. Bull, of King's Road, Chelsea, for an opportunity of figuring this fine orchid.



PLATE 517.

APHELANDRA AURANTIACA, VAR.

Among winter flowering stove plants (which are always exceptionally welcome) the genus *Aphelandra* furnishes some striking examples of gay and remarkable flowers, combining freedom of growth with brilliancy of colouring, and in a small state making admirable plants for dinner-table decoration.

To grow these plants successfully, they should be potted in a mixture of good loam, peat, and sand, and placed in a temperature of about 75°; they should be abundantly supplied with moisture until the season of flowering is over, and then placed in a cooler and drier atmosphere; during the whole period of growth great care should be taken to keep them clear of those pests of the stove, scale, and bug.

One great difficulty is to keep them dwarf, and therefore we think that the variety now figured (for the opportunity of doing so we are indebted to the Messrs. Veitch and Son, of the King's Road, Chelsea) will be a welcome addition. The habit is very dwarf and compact, the plant flowering when it is only six inches high; the flower spike is also much broader and finer, and it is much more free in growth than the older variety; in other respects it resembles the normal type. As exhibited by Messrs. Veitch at the Royal Horticultural Society's Show in December, they formed capital examples of plants for the dinner-table, the dark green ovate leaves, and the brilliant orange-tinted flowers, just forming that combination of colour which is so desirable for that purpose, and for which we often find most unsuitable plants employed.



PLATE 518.

JAPANESE CHRYSANTHEMUMS—GARNET AND JANE SALTER.

The Japanese Chrysanthemums, with their curious and tangled forms, are rapidly rising into favour ; at first they were scouted as utterly useless, but so persevering have hybridizers been with them, that we have seen (especially in a stand exhibited by Mr. Douglas, of Ilford Hall Gardens) some fine specimens exhibited with the more regularly formed Chinese Chrysanthemums.

As Mr. Bull now occupies the place once held by Mr. John Salter, we naturally look to him for the new varieties ; and those now figured will show that the work of improvement goes on. The following fine new varieties will be sent out by him in the spring of the present year :—*Garnet* (fig. 1), very light blood-red, or garnet ; the flower, of large size, is composed of long curled petals, which form a kind of drooping fringe round an anemone centre, quite novel. *Jane Salter* (fig. 2), white, bordered and striped with rosy-lilac ; flowers of large size, and composed of long, broad petals, early flowering. *Apollo*, orange-buff, or amber, flowers of a great size, and very double, composed of long, strap-shaped petals. *Glitter*, vivid red-scarlet, with a gold line round each petal ; flowers double, and of immense size ; the most splendid-coloured Japanese Chrysanthemum yet raised. *Magnum Bonum*, rosy-lilac, with lighter back ; the flowers are composed of broad, flat, fringed petals. *Plantagenet*, yellow shaded with bright orange, with broad upright petals curling around ; very double and attractive. *Oracle*, dark rosy-purple ; large and showy flowers, fine and early. *Asteroid*, bronze and yellow with a lighter back ; flowers very large and full, formed of curled strap-shaped petals. We believe that these will form a valuable addition to those already in cultivation.



PLATE 519.

PENTSTEMONS—W. E. GUMBLETON AND
STANSTEAD RIVAL.

The past summer, with its long-continued drought, taxing as it did the energies and resources of our most experienced gardeners, has shown the value of such perennial plants as the Pentstemon, Phlox, and Antirrhinum, which have been too much put on one side for the bedding plants, that in so many instances proved last year to be a lamentable failure; and the experience thus gained will, we hope, lead to their more extended cultivation.

We are again indebted to Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing for the opportunity of selecting two of their latest novelties from their extensive and varied selection, and in point of colour and closeness of spike they are, especially *Stanstead Rival*, an advance on varieties previously figured, the flowers being much closer together, a point which adds materially to their beauty in the garden; and from the freeness with which spike after spike is produced in the autumn months, this new race of Pentstemons forms an admirable addition to our autumn gardens.

W. E. Gumbleton (fig. 1) is a beautiful deep lavender or mauve-coloured flower, of good form and substance; *Stanstead Rival* (fig. 2) is a flower of great brilliancy of colour, deep scarlet crimson; the throat is pure white, forming an admirable contrast to the rich colour of the segments. Both partake of the same close habit of flowering. These, with several other fine varieties, will be sent out by Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing in the course of the spring.



PLATE 520.

LEPTOSIPHON PARVIFLORUS, VAR.
ROSACEUS.*

Amongst the indefatigable caterers of horticultural novelties who have of late years enriched our gardens, a prominent place must be given to Mr. W. Thompson, of Ipswich. To him we are indebted for many new species of annuals, especially from North America and California; and we understand that, in addition to the beautiful one figured in our plate, he has the showy *Godetia Whitleyi*, *Collinsia heterophylla*, *Coreopsis aristosa*, *Leptosyne maritima*, and *Gilia liniflora*, thus showing that he is still engaged in adding to our stores of beautiful flowers.

Leptosiphon rosaceus (or *parviflorus* var. *rosaceus*, as figured in the "Botanical Magazine"), promises to be a very lovely addition to our annuals; and Dr. Hooker states that, although he can discern no difference but that of size from *L. parviflorus*, yet in this respect it more agrees with *L. androsaceus*, the largest flowered of all.

It will be seen from the figure that this *Leptosiphon* is very dwarf in habit, seldom exceeding four inches, resembling in this respect *L. aureus*. It is very free flowering, the colour a variable rose, with a white or yellow eye. It is a native of California, and perfectly hardy, doing best when sown in autumn. It was greatly admired when exhibited at the Royal Horticultural Society, where a first-class certificate was awarded to it; and we feel quite convinced that it will come into very general cultivation amongst all those who admire pretty and showy annuals.

* We are informed that Dr. Gray considers it to be a variety of the *Leptosiphon longituba* of Benthams, but authorities are divided on the nomenclature.



PLATE 521.

SOLANUM CILIATUM.

Among those plants which have of late years been very much utilized for the decoration of the dinner-table, and for winter use generally, some of the Solanums have held a prominent place, *Solanum capsicum* and *S. pseudocapsicum* especially, their brilliant bright scarlet berries and their dwarf habit rendering them peculiarly suitable for the purpose. The variegated variety of the latter is also useful; while Weatherill's hybrids brought out by Mr. B. S. Williams, of Holloway, from the unusual size of their berries and greater profuseness of fruit, and *Prince of Wales*, a variety sent out by the Messrs. Carter and Co., of Holborn, with a profusion of bright golden yellow berries, hanging all near the plant, are also most useful.

Solanum ciliatum has been introduced by Messrs. Carter and Co., of High Holborn, from America, and, as will be seen by reference to the figure we have given of it, is likely to be a very important addition to our decorative plants. The berries are of large size, of very brilliant scarlet, and produced in clusters of two and three; the foliage is of a very brilliant green, the leaves large and deeply serrated, with many spines, while the height of the plant, about eighteen inches, renders it admirably suited for the purpose.

Like the others we have named, the seed of *Solanum ciliatum* must be sown in heat, and the plants must be kept in a moderately warm house: care must be taken by fumigating or washing the plants to keep down red spider, which is the great pest of all this tribe when cultivated indoors. We are indebted to the Messrs. Carter for the opportunity of figuring this novelty.



PLATE 522.

CANDELABRA-FLOWERED LARKSPUR.

Amongst a variety of novelties in the way of flower seeds which we received from Messrs. Dick Radcliffe and Co., of High Holborn, last season, was a package of a new kind of Delphinium, under the long and somewhat absurd name of *Delphinium consolidum candelabrum flore pleno*, which we have rendered simply the Candelabra-flowered Larkspur; and we have no hesitation in speaking of it as one of the prettiest annuals we have seen for a long time, and one deserving of very general cultivation.

The Larkspurs, whether perennial or annual, are decidedly favourites in the flower-garden, the intense and lovely blue of many of the former being unsurpassed in any tribe of plants, while the latter have been greatly improved, especially of late years, by the German florists, the present varieties being their last improvements. It will be seen from the plate, which is about one-half the size of the original, that the name given to it not inaptly describes its character—the branches start from the main stem nearly at the same height, and the flower assumes quite a perpendicular position at the end of the branch, thus giving it the appearance of a branching candelabrum.

In order that the beauty of this plant may be seen to perfection, the best plan is to sow in pots and pans, and then transplant singly into beds or borders; for to allow them to be huddled together would quite spoil their appearance, and they are quite as deserving of this treatment as stocks or asters. We should add, that they are not only of the colour in our plate, but in most of those in which the ordinary annual Larkspur is to be had.



PLATE 523.

PELARGONIUM—PINK QUEEN.

At the Autumn Show of the Metropolitan Floral Society, held at the Crystal Palace last September, amongst other miscellaneous objects of interest was a Pelargonium exhibited by Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing, to which a first-class certificate was awarded by the judges, and which, under the name of *Pink Queen*, we have now the pleasure of figuring.

The pink-flowered varieties of the Pelargonium have always been favourites, and many new varieties have from time to time been brought out, some of lighter and others of deeper shades of colour; but for bedding purposes none have exceeded the fine old variety raised by Mr. Kinghorn, *Christine*. Although like *Beauté de Surennes*, *Helen Lindsay*, and many others, very beautiful as pot plants, the chief objection to *Christine* is that it seeds so freely that the seed-pods become a disfigurement in the bed.

Pink Queen, it will be perceived, has foliage of an intense deep green, with a broad black zone in the centre of each leaf, while the flower is of a very deep carmine pink—much deeper than in any of the varieties which we have seen. It is also a very free-flowering variety, and we have but little doubt that it will be also very useful as a bedder. It will be, with a number of fine new pelargoniums, distributed this spring by Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing, to whom we are indebted for the opportunity of figuring it.



PLATE 524.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS—MOUNT EDGECUMBE AND GEORGE PEABODY.

The Chinese Chrysanthemum still maintains, and is likely to maintain, its place as one of our most popular flowers. In respect of popularity, indeed, we question if it has any rival but the Rose. Like that flower, it has exhibitions exclusively devoted to it; while from the ease with which it is cultivated, it is even more generally grown than the Rose.

Mr. Bull, who has now taken the place formerly held by Mr. Salter, has been kind enough to furnish us with a notice of those he is about to distribute this spring. There is no falling off in numbers, nor, as far as we have seen them, in quality. They are, besides those figured in our plate, *Katharine Talfourd*, golden amber, or yellow tipped with brown; *Renown*, bright orange, and lighter centre; *Felicity*, pure white, with lemon centre; *Acquisition*, anemone flowered, bright rose lilac and yellow disk; *Flora*, bright lilac peach, shading off to white; *Model*, bright rosy pink; *Luna*, golden yellow, with small brown tips; *Ensign*, cinnamon, shading off to yellow; *Barbara*, rich golden yellow; *Memnon*, rich rosy purple; *Chieftain*, cinnamon red colour; *Clarissa*, violet pink; *Emblem*, light rosy purple; *Refulgens*, rich deep claret; *Heroine*, delicate blush, tipped with sulphur yellow; *Princess*, soft lilac and pink.

Of those figured, *Mount Edgecumbe* (fig. 1) is transparent sulphur white, delicately tinted with rose, and beautifully incurved, in the style of that favourite old flower, *Aimée Ferrière*. *George Peabody* (fig. 2), white, back of petals dark lilac purple; and, as it is very incurved, the back of the petals is alone seen. It is one of the most distinct Chrysanthemums lately raised, and will be found a very fine exhibition flower.

PLATES 525-526.

FUCHSIAS—LEAH, UMPIRE, AND
STANDARD.

Notwithstanding the neglect which the *Fuchsia* has met with during the past few years, there are still some growers who endeavour to maintain the position for it which for so long a time it deservedly held. There are few plants which make so gay an appearance in the conservatory in the later summer months, while no difficulty in culture can be assigned as a reason for not growing it. It is easy to obtain good plants, symmetrical in form and full of bloom in a few months, and where a temperature of from 55° to 65° can be maintained with a moist atmosphere, success is well nigh certain. Although everybody who grows *Fuchsias* will not care to grow such plants as will be suitable for exhibition, still the same sort of culture will produce good plants anywhere. We would, therefore, recommend a paper by Mr. H. Cannel, of Woolwich, appended to his *Floral Guide* for 1871, as an admirable guide on the subject.

The *Fuchsias* now figured are being sent out by Mr. Wm. Bull, of King's Road, Chelsea, that indefatigable caterer of novelties of every kind. *Leah* (fig. 1) is one of the white tubed varieties, the sepals are also white, very broad, while the corolla is purplish-crimson, with a distinct broad margin of crimson. *Umpire* (fig. 2) is a double *Fuchsia*, being large and with very broad sepals of a deep glowing crimson; the corolla is intense purplish-blue with distinct irregular stripes of crimson, and the habit of the plant is excellent. *Standard* (fig. 3) is of an entirely distinct type, the flowers are very long, measuring five inches, the tube is narrow, and the sepals are of a bright rosy pink; the corolla is peculiar in colour, a kind of violet-purple, and altogether it would be difficult to find a more novel flower. These with several others are being distributed by Mr. Bull.



PLATE 527.

AUCUBA JAPONICA—FÆMINA AUREO-
MACULATA.

The introduction of the male Aucuba has been productive of remarkable results ; it has stimulated the raising of seedlings, and numerous varieties, differing from one another in the form, size, and marking of their leaves, have rewarded the skill and perseverance of the hybridizer ; while the beauty of the plant has been greatly increased by the production of the brilliant scarlet berries. Some plants, standards and dwarfs, exhibited by Mr. Wm. Bull at the Royal Horticultural Society's show at South Kensington, March 16, were generally admired ; it was stated by the Rev. W. Berkley, at the meeting afterwards, that he thought they could only be produced by artificial fertilization, a process easy enough where the pollen of the male plant can be had ; and it is no unusual thing for nurserymen to send this pollen out so that amateurs may perform the operation in their own houses or grounds.

We are indebted to Mr. James Cutbush, of Highgate, for the opportunity of figuring this very beautiful variety. It is, as will be seen from the plate, very distinct in the character of its markings. The centre of the disk is a deep brilliant golden yellow, the margin of the leaves being green, very irregularly running into the golden centre, and also marked with spots of the same brilliant yellow. In some of the leaves one half is green with golden spots, the other half yellow ; but in all cases the yellow greatly predominates. When the plant is studded with its clusters of golden berries, we cannot conceive a richer variety than that which Mr. Cutbush has been so fortunate as to originate.



PLATE 528.

CALADIUM—MONS. BARILLET.

Among the consequences resulting from the terrible war which has desolated France, is the fact that we shall not be able to receive the usual large assortment of novelties in Phloxes, Roses, Geraniums, Caladiums, &c. The horticulturists have been either so ruined by the war, or so occupied with the disasters which have befallen their country, that they have had no time to attend to the propagation of their plants.

We were, however, glad to hear from M. Bleu, to whom we are indebted for so many fine varieties of Caladiums, that his collection has not suffered. They were at rest, and consequently would not require the attention they would have done at another season; but at the same time, he says that he shall be unable to send us any novelties this season; we have therefore selected for our illustration *Mons. Barillet*, named and sent out at the same time as *Madame Dombrain*, and have to thank Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing for allowing our artist to make the drawing. The groundwork of the leaf is green, the midrib and veins brilliant crimson, a large irregular blotch of the same colour occupying the centre of the leaf, and between it and the green a margin of cream-colour gradually shades off into the deep rich ground-colour of the leaf. Those who are growers of this beautiful class of stone foliaged-plants, will not fail to see in the plant now figured a valuable addition to that section of the class to which it belongs.

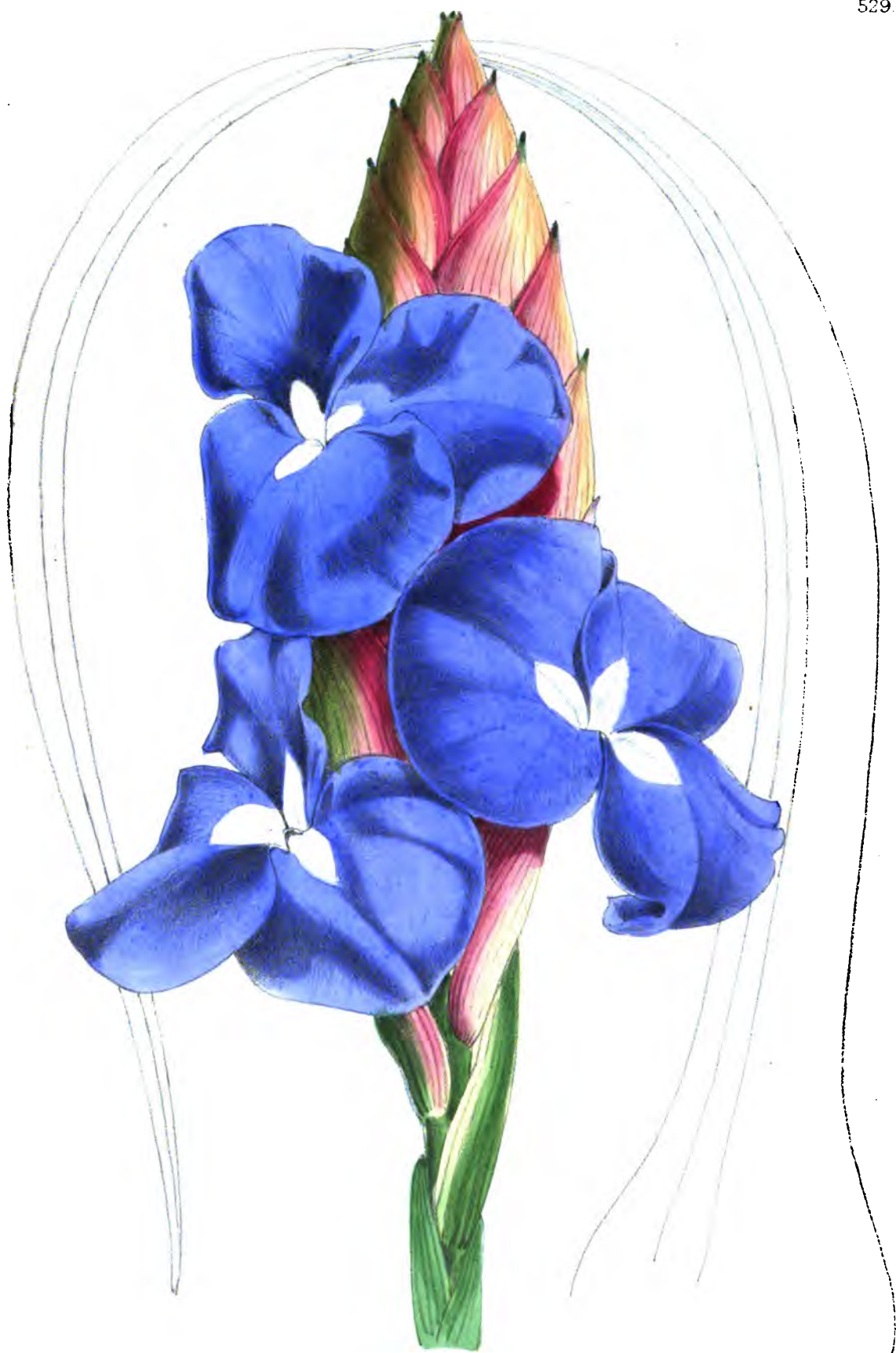


PLATE 529.

TILLANDSIA LINDENII, var. MAJOR.

This very beautiful plant, with its brilliant azure-blue flowers, has been frequently exhibited during the past two seasons, and has been universally admired. Mr. Williams, of Holloway, has exhibited one variety of it (for, like many of the tropical introductions of late years, it is found to vary in the wild state); and Mr. Veitch has lately exhibited another, larger in flower and denser in foliage, and therefore well entitled to the addition we have given to it.

Mr. B. S. Williams, in his valuable volume on stove and greenhouse-plants, says of this beautiful species, "that it bears a handsome broad distichous scape, which is rosy-carmine, and the flowers are azure-blue with a pure white eye; it is a most elegant plant, fit for table decoration or for ornamental vases, native of the province Huancabamba, in Peru." We would differ from this, as far as dinner-table decoration is concerned, for no blue flower is effective at night, as the colour becomes dull and bad.

These plants require to be grown in spongy peat, with the addition of loam and sand, and are easily increased by suckers; they can, of course, be increased by seeds also. We are indebted to Messrs. Veitch for the opportunity of figuring this beautiful plant, which horticulturists owe, with so many others, to the energy and enterprise of Mons. Linden, the well-known director of the Jardin Zoologique of Brussels.



PLATE 530.

LÆLIA ANCEPS, VAR. DAWSONII.

In the present plate we give another illustration of the variations which take place in the species of wild plants, as this variety of *Lælia Anceps* differs considerably from the one so long esteemed by orchid growers. Orchids seem especially liable to this variation, for we have seen in *Lycaste Skinneri* as many differences as in a collection of florist's flowers.

The family of *Lælia* is found in the New World, and Mexico is especially rich in the species. They require—many of them at least—a high temperature, although some modification has taken place in this respect, even with these tropical Orchids. They are grown generally in turfy peat, chopped old moss and charcoal, raised above the surface of a pot filled with drainage, or a block of wood firmly laid across.

The drawing of this very beautiful orchid was taken at Chelsea, by the kind permission of Messrs. Veitch and Son. It was found in October, 1865, by Messrs. Low's indefatigable collector, Mr. John Tucker, at Juquila, in Mexico; a place far from the natural habitat of the normal form, and there only in limited quantities. It differs from *Lælia Anceps* in the colour of the flowers, which is pale white; the usual yellow ridge common to the species being present; the lower or expanded portion undulating and recurved, and the whole labellum showing a distinct margin of white.



PLATE 531.

GASTRONEMA SANGUINEUM FLAMMEUM.

In our volume for 1864 we figured (plate 174) a form of the very beautiful bulb which had been sent to us by the well-known firm of Backhouse and Son, of York. We now figure a variety of the same which was imported under the name of *Vallota flammea*; it has, however, says Mr. Bull, several marks of distinction. "It generally produces two-flowered instead of single-flowered scapes, and has a more roseate and less sanguineous hue in the flowers. These are of a lovely rosy crimson hue, funnel-shaped with a recurved limb, the striped interior of the tube being lit up by the bright yellow of the anthers, whose filaments are adnate for some distance from the base; in some of the plants, the flowers are of a rosy pink colour. It is a most charming little greenhouse bulb, flowering in the spring months simultaneously with the leaves; a first-class certificate was awarded to it, under the name of *Gastronema flammeum*, by the Floral Committee, on the 16th of February last."

We have only to add that, as a Cape of Good Hope or rather South African species, it is easy of culture, and from its blooming in the spring will be a welcome addition to the *Lachenalias*, *Cyclamens*, and other bulbs, which tend to make greenhouses gay at that season of the year.

Mr. W. Bull has kindly given us the opportunity of figuring it, and it is mentioned in his interesting list of novelties for the present season.



PLATE 532.

TEA-ROSE—UNIQUE.

Many who are ignorant of the peculiar forms of the Tea-scented Roses, might be inclined to question whether this were a rose or not. When we received it from our esteemed friend Mons. Guillot *frs*, of Lyons, he sent with it a description which it has fully borne out, as far as we have seen it, namely, that it was like a half-expanded tulip, bearing in that respect some similarity to one sent out by M. Ducher the year before, though still more remarkable, and differing from it in colour.

The last winter has been in many cases very disastrous, even in the South of England, to Tea-scented Roses, the intense frost of Christmas Eve especially injured them, and many growers have to deplore the almost total loss of those which they had ventured to leave in the open ground. In our own case the frost was not so severe, and we took the precaution of covering all our roses with short hotbed litter, through which it does not readily penetrate, and in our entire collection we have not lost a rose.

We have received but few new roses from France this year, and those we have received have been from Lyons, which has been exempted from the horrors of the war. They are chiefly Tea Roses, and we may by-and-by report on them; as in the meantime our thirst for novelty must remain unsatisfied, we have given one of the roses for the season of 1869.



PLATE 533.

HYACINTH—GARIBALDI.

The great annual contest in Hyacinths this year was signaled by the entry of a new competitor, Messrs. Veitch and Son, of Chelsea, and by the retirement of a former one, Mr. Paul, of Waltham Cross, who has hitherto divided the laurels with Mr. Cutbush; and so well had the Messrs. Veitch cultivated their bulbs, that they gained a decided victory. It was hardly possible to conceive finer blooms than those staged by them; and accustomed as we have been to see Mr. Cutbush's famous flowers, we must say that these were fully equal to his. We had an opportunity this year of not only seeing these, but also those which competed for the Silver Cup offered by the Royal Horticultural Society of Ireland; and there we found the amateurs decidedly in advance of the growers for sale; the flowers of S. M. Tandy, Esq., of Appian Way, being examples of high excellence.

In place of figuring a new variety, of which there were none that seemed very noticeable, we have preferred giving one of the finest flowers exhibited in Messrs. Veitch and Son's stand. It is of a very brilliant hue of red, a fine spike, with deep-coloured carmine stripes in the centre of the petals, and a vigorous grower.

The culture of the Hyacinth is now well understood; but we have noticed that in many cases the foliage is too much drawn. This can only be avoided by a rapid growth, and by keeping the pots near the glass; in this way sturdiness of foliage may easily be attained, and without it a flower looks weak and bad.



PLATE 534.

TORENIA AURICULÆFOLIA.

The wide difference that exists between species of the same genera cannot be better exemplified than in the case of the plant now figured, which bears but little appearance of belonging to the same genus as *Torenia Asiatica*, while its pretty blue flowers remind us much of a *Lobelia*. It is perfectly distinct from any of the genus hitherto introduced, its leaves and general habit reminding one at first sight of a dwarf *Auricula* more than a *Torenia*. The flowers, which are solitary or terminal, are produced freely, on axillary peduncles from two to three inches high, and are not at all unlike *Lobelia Paxtonii*, but they are much larger, and the lobes are blotched with the richest blue, veined and margined with white.

As it has only flowered for the first time this season, and the plants are very small, the flowering capabilities of the plants are as yet unknown, but at present the blooms seem to be produced in pairs, and in the case of a strong plant with a dozen or more of crowns, it would present a very attractive appearance.

We are indebted to the Messrs. Rollisson, of Tooting, for the opportunity of figuring this little gem, and have only to add that it obtained a first-class certificate from the Royal Horticultural Society, when exhibited on April 5th of the present year.



PLATE 535.

PRIMULA VERTICILLATA, VAR. SIMENSIS.

This very handsome Primrose (although completely eclipsed by the splendid Japanese Primrose, which we hope to figure next month) attracted a good deal of attention when exhibited both last year and the present at the Exhibitions of the Royal Horticultural Society, under the name of *Primula Boveana*.

It has been described by an eminent botanist as "a handsome Primrose some eighteen inches in height, with tufted root-leaves, each leaf about eight to ten inches in length, oblong lanceolate, feather-veined, and covered with white mealy powder, especially on the lower surface. From the centre of the tuft of leaves rises a scape bearing two or three tiers or whorls of flowers, one above the other. Each of these whorls consisting of a dozen or more of flowers, the stalks of which measure two inches in length. We may say that there can hardly be two opinions as to the merits of the plant exhibited by Messrs. Veitch; it has the mealiness of an *Auricula*, the stature and habit of *Primula imperialis*, while each individual flower has the form and something of the colour of the common Primrose, though deeper in tint and not quite so large. The Abyssinian Primrose is thus a welcome addition to our garden flora.

As a hardy greenhouse perennial it will be generally useful, and as a strong specimen produces from ten to twelve spikes of bloom at a time, and the flowers are sweet-scented, it will be valuable for many purposes. It has received a certificate from the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society.



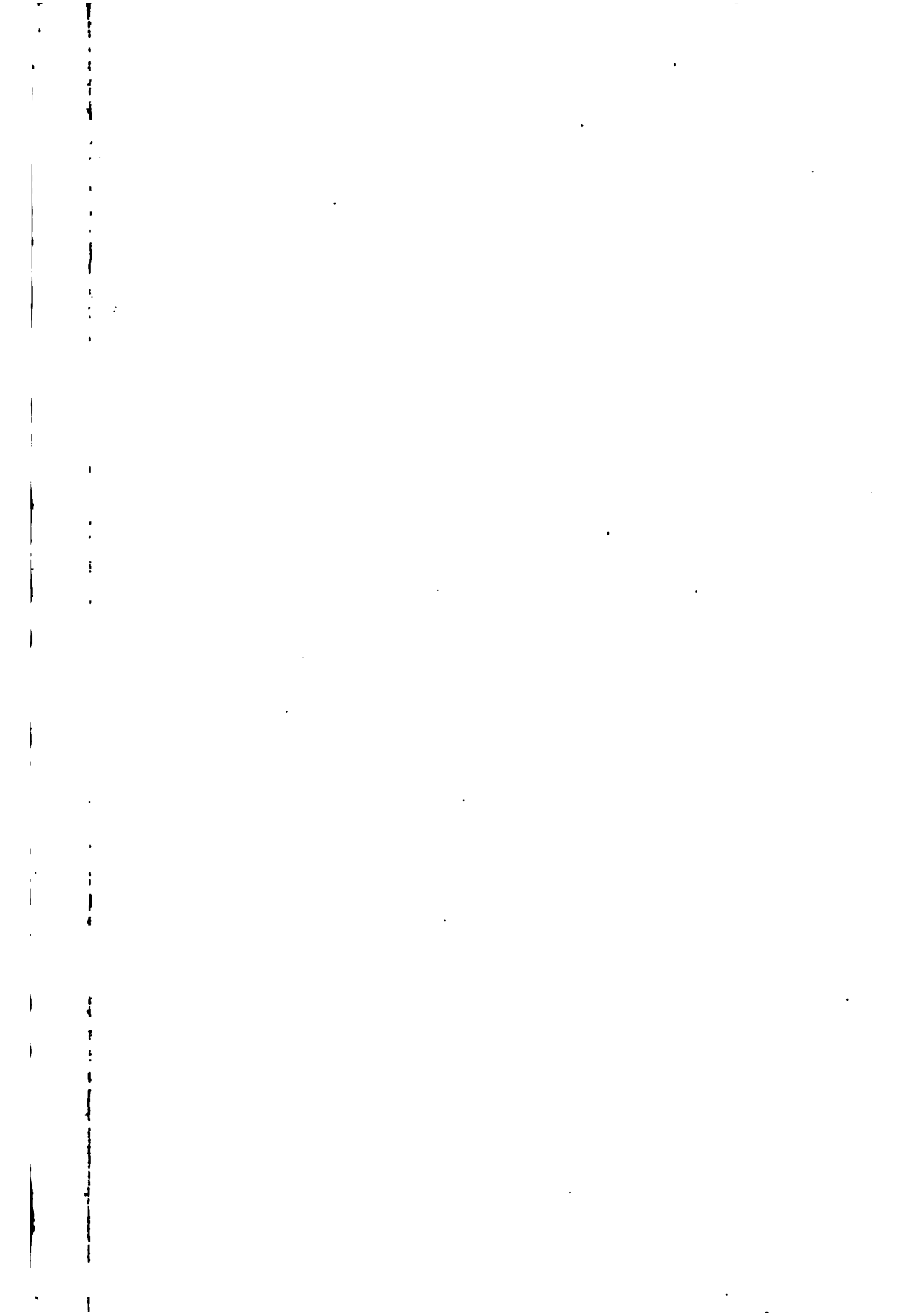
PLATE 536.

CERASUS PENDULA ROSEA.

In the pleasant account which Mr. Fortune gives us of his experiences in Japan, he mentions with much gratification the tea gardens, the grounds of which were ornamented freely with different varieties of the flowering cherry, trees which are by no means so much valued here as we think they ought to be; and to the late Dr. Von Siebold we are indebted for the introduction of the several varieties of the trees there mentioned.

Cerasus pendula rosea, which we now figure, was obtained by Mr. W. Bull, of Chelsea, from the establishment of Dr. Von Siebold at Leyden, and may be described as a free flowering ornamental shrub. The colour of the flower is a clear light pink, while the drooping habit of the branches, which are covered with the bloom, will make it an exceedingly pretty object in the garden or shrubbery. There is another plant, introduced at the same time, with double flowers of a beautiful rose-colour, produced in long pendant branches. This has been named *C. Sieboldii rosea plena*.

There is another feature in these plants which will increase their value, and that is, that they force exceedingly well, and will be much used for bouquets, the delicate colour of the flower being one that is much needed for that purpose. The drawing was made by our artist from a plant in the establishment of Mr. William Bull, of Chelsea.



PLATES 537-538.

PRIMULA JAPONICA.

Since the day when *Lilium auratum* was displayed by Messrs. Veitch and Son, for the first time, to the horticultural public, we cannot recollect so great a sensation to have been occasioned by any plant as by that which we now figure, when Mr. William Bull exhibited it on May 3rd of the present year.

Its history is now well known, and of its merits too much cannot be said. To Mr. Fortune, already so fortunate in enriching our gardens, are we indebted for it; and Mr. Bull may well congratulate himself on being the first to introduce it into Europe. A *Primula* one foot to one foot and a half high, bearing four or five separate whorls of flowers, each flower an inch in diameter and of a splendid Magenta colour, and the plant moreover perfectly hardy—can anything be added to this to indicate its value? We hardly think so; and every one who saw it will fully bear out our assertion, that a more beautiful and more useful plant has not been for many years introduced into Europe. Of its hardiness there can be no doubt, as it has stood the ordeal of the last severe winter in the neighbourhood of London.

It carries with it its own honours, but we may add, that it has obtained a first-class certificate, and might well have claimed the Lindley medal. We have to thank Mr. Bull for his courtesy in permitting our artist to make the very beautiful drawing with which he has enriched the present number.



PLATE 539.

ALPINE AURICULAS—QUEEN VICTORIA
AND MERCURY.

The past season, owing to the exertions of the Metropolitan Floral Society, has witnessed a larger number of Auriculas placed for competition at the Royal Horticultural Society than on any previous occasion, and this although the season was by no means a favourable one for them. The excessive drought of last summer told severely on plants which, like the Auricula, rejoice in a moist and cool temperature. The constant watering so deprived the soil of its goodness, that in some instances repotting a second time was resorted to.

Although some fine and promising new plants of Mr. Headly's raising were exhibited amongst show Auriculas, yet we have preferred figuring two of Mr. Turner's beautiful strain of Alpines. They are more likely to be generally useful, as they are more easily grown, and more quickly propagated than those called show varieties.

Queen Victoria (fig. 1) is a flower of fine properties, the colour a rich plum; while the paste is nearly white, instead of the yellow colour which is generally characteristic of the class. *Mercury* (fig. 2) is of a rich maroon colour, fine shape and substance, with a rich golden-yellow paste. Mr. Turner, of Slough, who exhibited them, has also a large number of varieties of fine character.



PLATE 540.

TYDÆA—DISPLAY.

The class to which this belongs furnishes many of our most striking ornamental plants for the stove and greenhouse, which are most useful, from many of them flowering at seasons of the year when the summer plants are past their best. At that time how grateful are the brilliant or soft blossoms of *Achimenes*, *Gloxinia*, *Gesneria*, *Plectopoma*, *Tydæa*, and other allied genera; and how admirably they are suited for introduction into living rooms, or for table decoration, for, being bulbous plants, they do not suffer the permanent injury that many do when exposed to the trying ordeal of gas and dust.

For the *Tydæa* which we now figure we are indebted to the establishment of Mr. William Bull. It is valuable for its winter blooming qualities, coming fully into bloom at a season of the year when flowers are especially sought after. The individual flowers are large and well formed; the tube is of a bright carmine colour, densely covered with short crimson hairs; the lobes, which are very broad and ample, are pink, beautifully reticulated with rich crimson; the mouth is a rich violet carmine colour; and the throat white, blotched with deep orange.

The culture of the *Tydæa* does not differ from that of *Achimenes*; they should be started in a good heat, then potted off into larger pots, and removed to an intermediate house. They can also be grown in shallow pans, or in baskets; they delight in heat, moisture, and shade, when growing; but when in bloom, may be gradually transferred to a cooler house.



ROSE—MARQUISE DE CASTELLANE.

The present has not been a favourable season for the Rose, and we have never seen in our experience such prevalence of that pest, orange fungus. The cold and very wet spring seems to have been especially favourable to its rapid growth, and everywhere that we have been, the rose bushes are half denuded of their leaves by it. Then the violent winds and exceedingly heavy thunderstorms completely shattered and saturated the blooms, so that they remained but for a short time in their freshness and beauty. They were, moreover, very late, so that at the earlier shows there were not many of them in bloom, and we were only surprised to find that they could be exhibited in such beauty as they were.

Marquise de Castellane is a Rose of the last season, that was sent over from France in the autumn of 1869, and some blooms of it exhibited in the stands for new flowers, gave promise of its being an excellent rose. This was fully confirmed when some pots of it were exhibited in the spring, by Mr. Bennett, of Stapleford, near Salisbury, where they attracted unusual attention. Since then it has been shown in many winning stands. We have had it in bloom in our own garden, and can bear witness to its being a worthy companion to *Louis Van Houtte*, figured in our last volume. They will be found to be two of the best roses of the last season.



PLATE 542.

AZALEA—FANNY IVERY.

The name of Mr. Ivery, of Dorking, is well known to all lovers of the Azalea, as that of one to whom we are indebted for a large number of some of the best varieties in cultivation. Some of these have already found a place in the *Floral Magazine*, and we are quite sure that that which we now figure will prove no unworthy companion to those which have preceded it; we the more readily give it a place in our Magazine because, of late years, our best flowers have been introduced from Belgium.

Fanny Ivery is a flower of fine properties. It is large in size; the petals are broad and well expanded, the colour a rich deep red, the upper segments being very strongly marked with deep crimson spots. The habit of the plant is sturdy and strong, and the flowers are produced very freely.

It were superfluous to give any directions with regard to the culture of the Azalea. We may, however, say that apparently the more natural mode of growing and training it is now more popular. This we are not surprised at, and we think that small plants are also finer objects to look upon than the overgrown stiffly-trained plants we so often see at our great exhibitions. Few plants are more easily managed, or more thoroughly repay care and attention, than the beautiful and delicately-perfumed Azalea.



PLATE 543.

CYPRIPEDIUM NIVEUM.

The attention which is given amongst us to the cultivation of Orchids is a strong proof of the increased interest taken in horticulture; formerly it was given but to a few to grow them, but now, especially since what is known as the cool-treatment system has been adopted, very many who formerly were unable to do so, are now following their cultivation with ardour and success.

We have already figured several of this family, both introduced species and hybrids raised by Mr. Downing, and we now present a very beautiful and perfectly distinct species which has been largely exhibited, especially by Mr. W. Bull of King's Road, Chelsea, in whose establishment for new and rare plants it is to be found in great quantities, and to whose courtesy we are indebted for the opportunity of figuring it.

Cypripedium niveum is a native of the East Indies, and bears a very close analogy in the appearance of the pseudo-bulbs, and the general appearance and habit of flowering, to *C. concolor*, but perfectly distinct in colour. The leaves are dark-green, mottled with white, the flowers are of a most delicate white, of great consistency, almost like porcelain, and marked with minute violet spots; it is of course dwarf in habit, and a valuable addition to this curious and interesting class.



LEE'S FORCING PINK—COCCINEA.

Of late years we have received, especially from the Continent, a number of what are now called tree, or perpetual flowering Carnations and Picotees, which are exceedingly useful for winter blooming, their fragrance making them particularly welcome. English raisers have added several good ones to our list, amongst which must be enumerated *Prince of Orange* and *Ascot Yellow*. There is one objection to these plants which makes them less desirable for amateurs with small houses—viz., their height, growing, as they do to three and four feet.

There have been also some forcing Pinks known for some time, which have been very useful for spring flowering. Amongst them *Anne Boleyn* has long held a foremost place, being dwarf in habit and very free-flowering; but for usefulness and beauty it is far surpassed by the variety we now figure, which has been brought forward by Mr. Lee, of Cross Bush, near Arundel, Sussex, and was exhibited by him at one of the Floral Meetings of the Royal Horticultural Society, where it was greatly admired, and received a first-class certificate.* It has passed into the hands of Mr. Charles Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough, by whom it will be, we believe, distributed in the spring. It is only about nine inches high, and so very free-flowering that there is very great difficulty in obtaining stock in sufficient quantities. This will doubtless add greatly to its merits as a decorative plant. It has no claim to any merit as a *florist's* flower, but simply as a most useful early flowering Pink.

* It was then named Princess Louise, but Mr. Lee wishes the name changed to Coccinea.



PLATE 545.

AMARYLLIS CHELSONI.

Increased attention is being given to this most interesting tribe of plants, if we may judge from not only the larger number of them seen at exhibitions, but also from the fact that so many seem to be engaged in hybridizing them, and so introducing new varieties to general cultivation.

Those who have been able to accommodate them with sufficient room, plant them out in beds in a warm greenhouse, or pit, and select from such beds of seedlings those which best fulfil the conditions of a good flower—viz., a good breadth of petal and brilliancy or distinctness in marking. We have already figured some interesting varieties; and that which we now figure is equally worthy of cultivation.

Amaryllis Chelsoni was raised in the establishment of Messrs. Veitch and Son, of Chelsea, and is a flower of excellent properties, the petals being broad, while the colour is a brilliant fiery crimson. It will form an admirable contrast to such light-coloured plants as the beautiful *Hippeastrum Leopoldi*, figured in our last volume; the great breadth of petal and substance of the flower adding much to its beauty and permanency.



PLATE 546.

ORTHOSIPHON STAMINEUS.

This very pretty labiate stove-plant has already been figured in the *Botanical Magazine*, but as it is one of those plants which not only the botanist delights in for its peculiarities, but the horticulturist for its decorative qualities, we have thought it worthy of a place in a Magazine which endeavours to bring into notice such plants as are suitable for the general purpose of ornament, whether in the stove, greenhouse, or garden.

We are informed in the *Botanical Magazine* that it is a very wide-spread Eastern plant, from Assam and Borneo to the Philippine Islands, and from the Nicobars and Siam to Java, Borneo, and Cape Goole, in North-east Australia. It was from the latter place that it was introduced by that enterprising young botanist, whose early death science deplores, Mr. John Gould Veitch; and it was in the well-known establishment of the Messrs. Veitch that our figure was taken.

It is a herbaceous stove-plant, from one to two feet high, very free flowering; the colour of the flower is a pale bluish lilac, while that of the foliage is a dark green. It is very easily cultivated, and forms a useful adjunct to stove-plants of brighter and more brilliant colours; and the graceful habit of the plant adds much to its value for decorative purposes.



PLATE 547.

PELARGONIUMS—ROSICRUCIAN AND
KINGCRAFT.

It augurs some zeal and interest in the culture of the Pelargonium, to year by year either produce, or bring into notice new and excellent varieties, when they meet with no encouragement amongst the lovers of flowers generally, and we fear, as a matter of commerce, do not pay. Yet Mr. Turner, of Slough, persistently, year after year, takes up his wonted position, and although the advance seems slight, yet we are persuaded that it is made. We know that the demand for them, especially as new varieties, is not at all equal to that for the Zonal class, but Mr. T. does not wish to give them up, and hopes to see the day when they may yet be cultivated with the same zest as before.

From a number of new varieties we have selected the two in our plate as distinct varieties. In *Rosicrucian* (Fig. 1), the lower petals are of a deep pink colour, while the upper are somewhat deeper, or bright crimson. *Kingcraft* (Fig. 2), is of the admired dark variety, having the upper petals nearly black, while the lower are a rich deep scarlet, with a tinge of crimson.



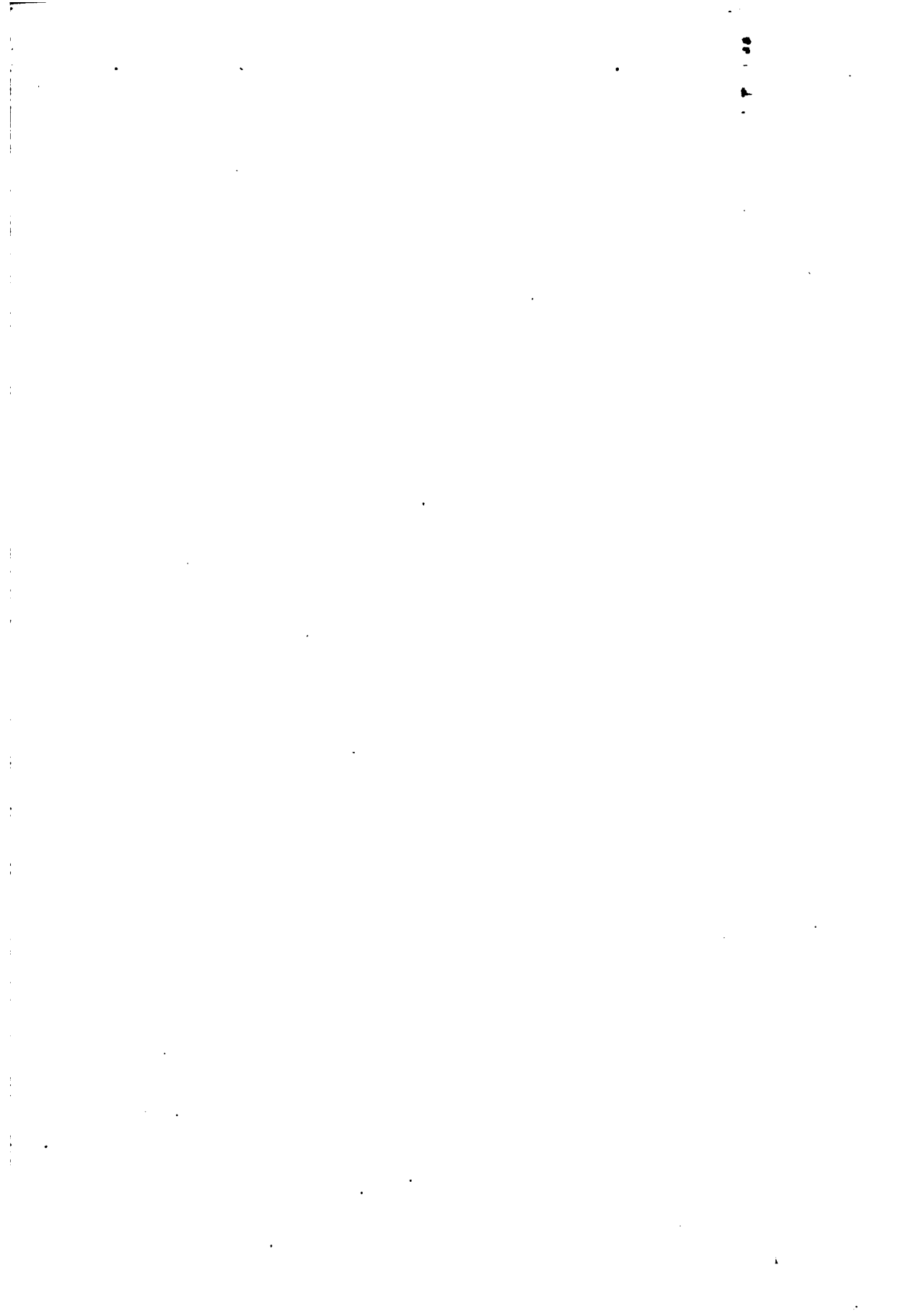
PLATE 548.

BURLINGTONIA CANDIDA.

This very lovely Orchid is by no means a new plant, as it has been known for the last forty years, but having been recently brought forward by the Messrs. Veitch, it has, like a great many other neglected plants, been welcomed as much as if it were a novelty.

The genus *Burlingtonia* does not contain, as many of the family of Orchids do, a large number of species, but they are gems of great beauty. We have the pretty *Burlingtonia decora*, and its still more lovely variety *picta*, with its pure white ground, and its sepals and petals marked with rich deep purple mottlings. There is little doubt that, like many of the Orchids, such as *Lycaste Skinneri* and *Odontoglossum Alexandræ*, it varies in its natural state, while the snowy whiteness of *candida* makes it interesting to all who admire purity as well as brilliancy of colour.

The *Burlingtonias* all delight in a high temperature when growing, and succeed best when fastened to blocks of wood with a little moss attached. They equally delight in a cool dry state when at rest.



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PLATES ~~449~~, 450.

IXORA AMABILIS.

There are few more showy plants, or plants that more easily fulfil the conditions of good exhibition plants, than the *Ixoras*, and amongst the very best must be classed that which we now figure.

As stone plants, they necessarily require good cultivation, and coming from some of the hottest regions of the tropics, they require a very high temperature, not less than 70° by day, and 65° by night, combined, during the growing season, with considerable moisture; they also require to be carefully guarded from the attack of thrips. The soil in which they succeed best is good strong peat with a little loam and silver sand, and when striking, the growth requires shade, a moist atmosphere, and abundance of water.

Ixora amabilis has a vigorous and compact habit, with fine foliage, and flowers of a deep orange colour, of good form; the trusses are very large, measuring sometimes nine inches in diameter; it is very free flowering, young plants in small pots giving two or three large trusses of bloom; as it produces flowers for several months in season it will be very useful for exhibition purposes. As a proof of its value, it has received first-class certificates at the Royal Horticultural and Royal Botanic Society's Exhibitions, when exhibited by Mr. Robert Parker of Tooting, who is now sending it out.



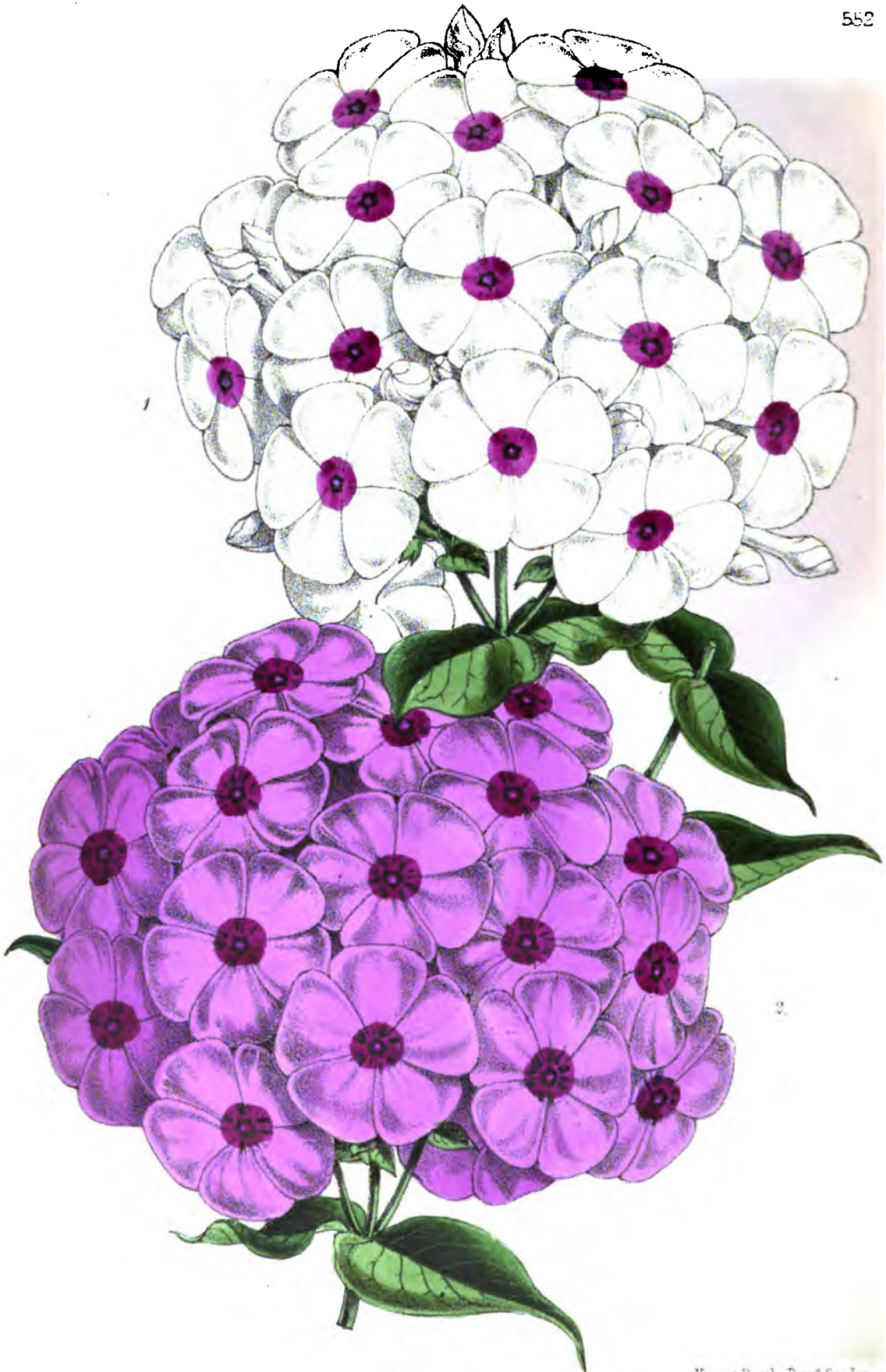
PLATE ⁵451,

BEGONIA CARMINATA.

When the beautiful *Begonia Bolivensis* was introduced, we expressed an opinion that it would be found very useful, not only as a handsome decorative plant, but also as likely to form the parent of many interesting hybrids. Mr. Veitch's *B. Sedeni*, and others, and Mr. Bull's numerous varieties, testify that this is so, and we have no doubt that we shall yet see some more handsome varieties produced by hybridizing.

Begonias do not require a large amount of heat, an intermediate house suiting them very well, and a compost of peat, loam, and thoroughly decomposed manure, to which a little silver sand must be added, affording them a suitable soil; they may be kept in small pots, and will flower freely thus, but they make also fine plants when shifted and grown on; and as many of them flower in the dull winter months, they are especially valuable.

Begonia carminata, which Mr. Bull has kindly permitted us to figure, is a very distinct hybrid, having deeply serrated leaves, margined with red, and thickly spotted over with brownish-red spots, while the flowers are of a pale pink. A plant of it was exhibited at South Kensington by Mr. Bull, and was much admired.



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PLATE 452.

PHLOX—MRS. DOMBRAIN AND
DR. MASTERS.

There are few of our herbaceous plants more showy in the garden, or more effective as pot plants, than the tall flowering varieties of *Phlox*; succeeding as they do in any good garden soil, they exhibit their large heads of bloom during the late summer and early autumn months in great profusion, and when grown in a sheltered position, continue a long period in flower.

M. Lievral, of Paris, was one of the most successful raisers of this flower; he is unhappily one of the victims of the late war, and we do not know whether his representatives will continue their cultivation, but Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing have most successfully taken up the flower; they have produced many new varieties, and amongst them those which we now figure.

Mrs. Dombrain (fig. 1) is a pure white flower of large size, with a purplish-like centre. The heads of bloom (of which we are enabled only to give a small portion) are very large. Dr. Masters (fig. 2) is another fine flower, of a rosy magenta hue, with dark brown centre; it also has very large heads of bloom; when exhibited at Kensington in August, both these flowers were greatly and deservedly admired. They will be let out in the spring, with some other fine varieties.



PLATE 553.

CLIMBING HYBRID PERPETUAL ROSE—
PRINCESS LOUISE VICTORIA.

There are few climbing plants that can compare in beauty with the rose, when *Félicité perpétuelle*, clustered all over with its snowy flowers, or the yellow Banksia with its golden showers are in bloom. We at once pronounce them exquisite, but alas their beauty is short-lived; they have not that permanence of character which the hybrid perpetuals possess (although in one sense this is a misnomer), and we must therefore hail with pleasure the appearance of a new English rose, which while essentially a climbing one, is yet new in colour as such, and moreover, as a perpetual, will give blooms up to a late period of the year.

Mr. Knight, of the Floral Nursery, Hailsham, Sussex, has been the fortunate raiser of this flower, and when we had the pleasure of seeing it, in the month of September, it had made shoots during the season of six and eight feet in length. It is a seedling from *Baron Gonella*, fertilized by *Victor Verdier*; the colour a bright salmon rosy pink, reflexed with white; the foliage is a brilliant glossy green; the flowers are produced in clusters, and we are assured are to be had up to the end of November; it has received three first-class certificates. These things are sufficient to indicate its importance, and we believe it will be found a most valuable acquisition to the somewhat limited class of climbing roses.



PLATE 554.

BICOLOR PELARGONIUM—AMAZON.

Two years ago we received from Mr. Sampson, of Houndstone and Yeovil, plants of some seedling bicolor Pelargoniums which we planted out of doors, and with which we were so pleased that two of them have, notwithstanding the very large number of the class that there are in commerce, retained their position in our garden, as amongst the most effective plants that we have; they were *Beauty of Preston*, *Hero of Houndstone*, *Sir Robert Napier*, and *Duke of Edinburgh*; of these the first and last are, we think, the best, and *Duke of Edinburgh* especially is most brilliant and effective.

In *Amazon* Mr. Sampson has obtained a variety which, while it excels those we have already named, will also, we think, bear comparison with any variety of its class that we have seen. Many of the bicolors which are effective indoors, oftentimes lose a good deal of their character when bedded out, but it is the reverse with *Amazon*, and others of the same character; the edges of the leaves, which are green indoors, become a brilliant yellow out of doors, and contrast beautifully with the deep maroon horseshoe; the colour of the flowers, although this is a secondary consideration in bicolors, is a light pink, and the habit of the plant is very robust. So that altogether we think *Amazon* is destined to become both a useful and favourite flower.



PLATE 555.

MASDEVALLIA HARRYANA.

We have already figured, in the last volume of the *Floral Magazine* (Plate 481), the brilliant and singular *Masdevallia Veitchii*, a most remarkable orchid, and in the present plate we give another of the same genus, which has received from the celebrated orchidologist, Professor Reichenbach, the name of *Harryana*, although when exhibited it was under the name of *Amabilis*.

Masdevallia Harryana is a recent importation from New Granada, and requires treatment precisely similar to those of the genus that have already been introduced—that is, what may be called the cool treatment, such as the *Odontoglossa* receive, especially those which delight in a cool and shady house. It is by no means a plant of difficult cultivation, and succeeds best in sphagnum, sand, and broken pieces of pot ; requiring also a good deal of moisture at the time of making its growth. There is one great advantage to the orchid grower, connected with these *Masdevallias*, and that is their succession of bloom. Plants will bloom three times in the course of the year, and as the flowers continue for a long time in their beauty, it may be said almost to be a continuous bloomer, and the brightness of its colours, will always make it a welcome addition to the orchid house.



PLATE 556.

GLADIOLUS—ROBERT LODGE.

That the lovers of the *Gladiolus* in England can raise fine and striking varieties of this flower, we know from the fact that years ago Mr. Standish, of Ascot, brought out some very fine ones ; and that Mr. Kelway, of Langport, has exhibited during the past few seasons flowers of remarkable promise ; while in the flower we now figure we have an example of the success which has attended the skill of our friend Mr. Douglas.

There is no flower which so tries the patience of the cultivator. We have grown it this year as usual, have had fine flowers, and then the plants have been attacked with disease, and the bulb perishes. Some of our best sorts were thus lost this year ; and we fear the frequent recurrence of this disease will greatly tend to check the increased growth of this beautiful autumn flower.

Mr. Douglas, the very able gardener of Mr. Whitborne, of Loxford Hall, Essex, is unquestionably our most successful amateur grower, and is now taking a prominent place as a raiser of seedlings, *Robert Lodge* being, in our opinion, one of the best he has raised. It is a flower of the same type as *Michel Ange* ; the colour a brilliant carmine, with a white line in the centre of each petal ; and it will, we think, bear comparison with some of the best of M. Souchet's new varieties.



PLATE 557.

AMARANTHUS SALICIFOLIUS.

The family to which the plant we now figure belongs has already furnished some excellent decorative plants, among which may be classed as a bedding plant *A. melancholus ruber*, introduced by Messrs. Veitch and Son of Chelsea, to whom we are also indebted for that which we now figure, it having been introduced by the late lamented Mr. J. G. Veitch from the Philippine Islands.

The habit of the plant is very elegant; the leaves, which are not above a quarter of an inch in width, although from five to seven inches in length, are beautifully undulated, falling gracefully all round the plant. Their colour is in the earlier stages of growth green and bronze-green; but as the plant increases in age they become more elongated, and from ten to fifteen inches in length, while they assume a bright orange-red colour, giving the idea of brilliant plumes. The entire height of the plant is from two and a half to three feet.

The gracefulness of its habit will make it very valuable for the decoration of the greenhouse or conservatory late in autumn, while, for the same reason and its brilliancy of colour, it will be very useful as a table plant.

It has been exhibited by the Messrs. Veitch at Hamburg, London, Edinburgh, and Brighton, and has always received first-class certificates; and we feel confident it will soon find its way into general cultivation.

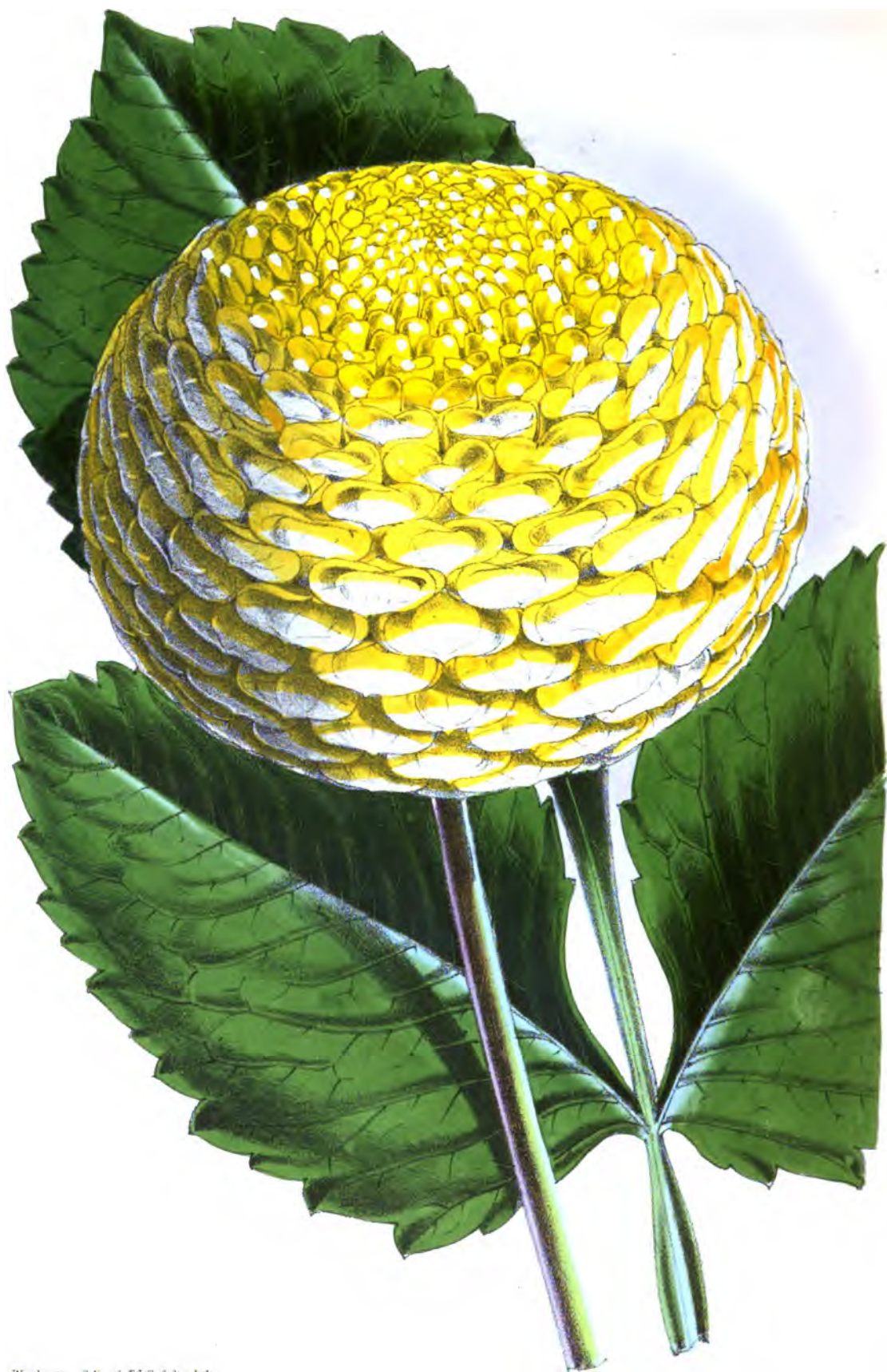


PLATE 558.

DAHLIA—MRS. SAUNDERS.

There are manifest symptoms that the noblest autumnal flower we possess is once more coming into favour, and in nothing is this more clearly seen than in the attention which is given to seedling flowers. We have seen this year as enthusiastic groups collected round stands of seedling Dahlias as we used to see in former days, and have a good hope that the vulgar outcry against the flower for its solidity of form will cease, and its great decorative merits be recognised.

The past season has been an unfavourable one for many florist's flowers, and for the Dahlia amongst others. The cold of June and July severely retarded their growth and period of blooming, so that at the two great shows, Bishop Auckland in the north, and the Metropolitan Floral Society's at the Crystal Palace, the display was not by any means equal to last year. But we at the same time say that finer seedlings have been exhibited than we remember for some years past.

Mrs. Saunders was raised and exhibited by Mr. Charles Turner of the Royal Nursery, Slough. It is one of the fancy class, the colour white, with a beautiful sulphur tip to each petal. It has been awarded a first-class certificate by the Metropolitan Floral Society and by the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society.



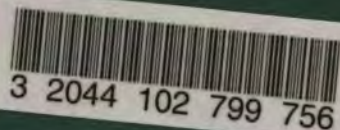
PLATE 559.

MAXILLARIA LUTEO-GRANDIFLORA.

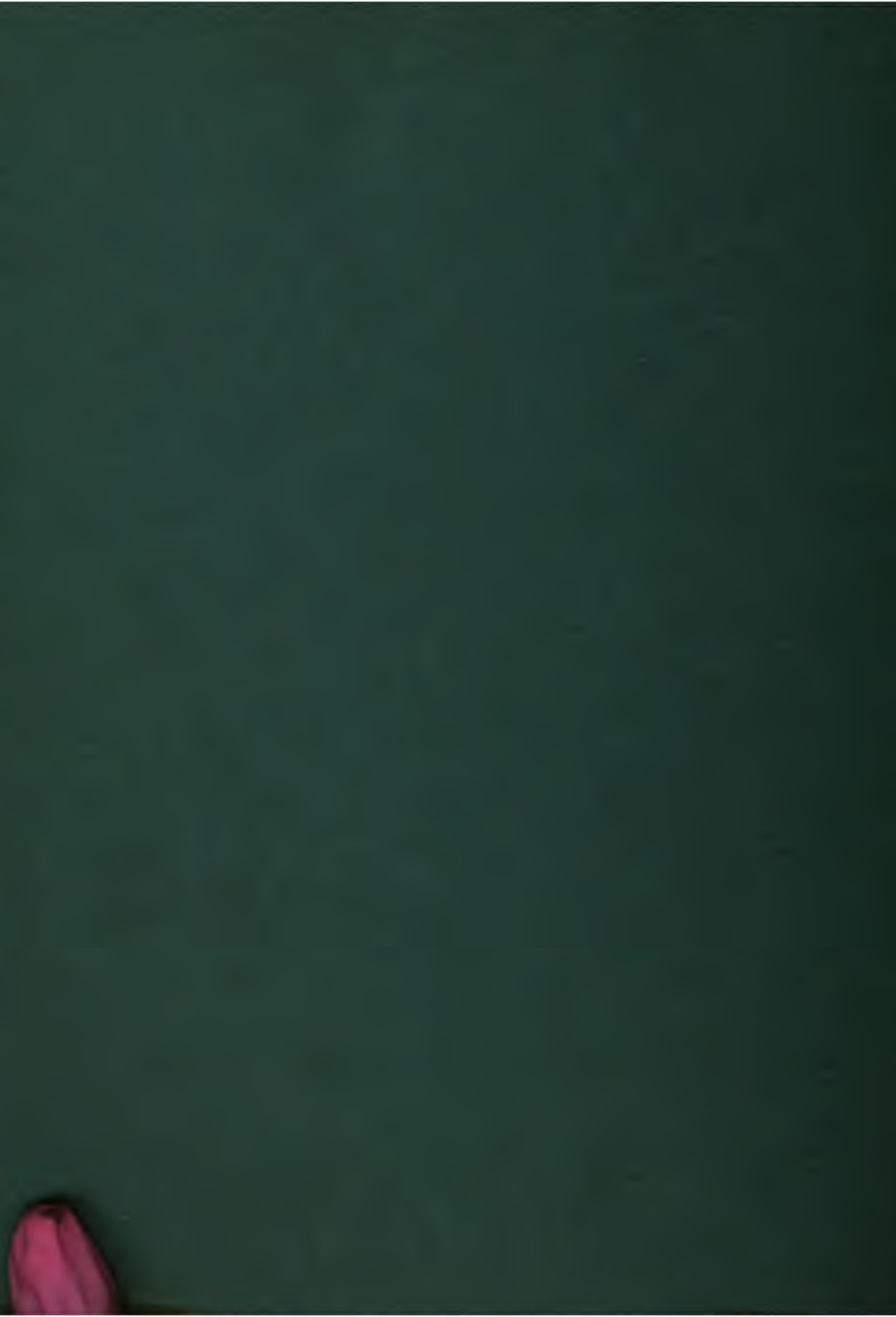
The genus *Maxillaria* (says Mr. B. S. Williams, of the Victoria Nursery, Holloway, and author of that valuable book, "The Orchid Growers' Manual,") is very extensive, and contains a number of species which are very small in the size of their flowers and inconspicuous and dull in their markings. To such an extent does this prevail, that most cultivators of Orchids have discarded them, and learned to speak slightly respecting the whole family; but amongst the numerous species there are a few of remarkable beauty, the size and markings of their blooms rendering them worthy of a place in any collection, the subject of the present plate being one of them.

The *Maxillarias* are nearly all evergreen plants, and of easy cultivation, most of them succeeding best in the temperature of a cool, somewhat moist house. The soil best adapted for their culture is a mixture of peat and sphagnum moss, in about equal parts. The pots in which they are planted should be well drained, and during the summer season they should be treated to a liberal supply of water; during winter less must be given, but the pseudobulbs should never be allowed to shrivel.

There are several varieties of this plant in cultivation, but Mr. Williams considers this by far the best that he has seen. It grows about eighteen inches high, and forms a dense compact mass, producing an abundance of its highly ornamental flowers, which retain their beauty for a long time.



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